

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending packets ~~in a~~
2 ~~computer system~~, comprising the ~~computer-implemented~~ steps of:
3 communicating, from an application ~~a user level~~ to an operating system ~~level~~, a policy
4 for manipulating packets; and
5 at the operating system ~~level~~, modifying the packets based on the policy.

- 1 2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of
2 communicating the policy comprises: the operating system level is
3 below the IP stack
4 at the operating system, in response to receiving the policy from the
5 application, storing the policy in a data structure.

- 1 3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the policy
2 indicates destinations to which messages should be redirected.

- 1 4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein:
2 the step of modifying the packets includes receiving a packet, replicating the packet
3 based on the policy to create a plurality of replicated packets for a plurality of
4 users interested in receiving the packet; and

5 the method further comprises the step of transmitting the replicated packets to the
6 interested users based on the policy.

1 5. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending packets ~~in a~~
2 ~~computer system~~, comprising the ~~computer-implemented~~ steps of:
3 communicating, from an application ~~a user level~~ to hardware, a policy for
4 manipulating packets; and
5 in the hardware, modifying the packets based on the policy.

1 6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein the hardware is a router.

1 7. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending messages,
2 comprising the ~~computer-implemented~~ steps of:
3 creating an aggregate message from individual messages that are to be sent using an
4 operating system service;
5 transmitting the aggregate message to an operating system ~~level~~ with a system call;
6 within the operating system ~~level~~, dividing the aggregate message back into individual
7 messages; and
8 transmitting the individual messages using the operating system service.

1 8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 7, wherein the individual messages are
2 packets.

1 9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 7, wherein the aggregate message includes
2 a policy.

1 10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy indicates
2 destinations to which messages should be redirected.

1 11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes video-to-
2 message information.

1 12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes a time
2 stamp that is a range of time indicating when the individual messages should be
3 transmitted.

1 13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes time stamps
2 for transmitting the individual messages according to the time stamps associated with
3 the individual messages.

1 14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 13, wherein the time stamps are sequence
2 numbers.

1 15. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 13, wherein the time stamps are relative
2 virtual time delays with respect to the first message to be transmitted.

1 16. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of
2 instructions for sending packets in a computer system, wherein execution of the one or
3 more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more
4 processors to perform the steps of, the computer-readable medium bearing
5 instructions for performing the steps of:
6 communicating, from an application a user level to an operating system level, a policy
7 for manipulating packets; and
8 at the operating system level, modifying the packets based on the policy.

1 17. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16,
2 wherein the step of communicating the policy comprises: the operating
3 system level is below the IP stack
4 at the operating system, in response to receiving the policy from the
5 application, storing the policy in a data structure.

1 18. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16,
2 wherein the policy indicates destinations to which certain messages
3 should be redirected.

1 19. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein:
2 the step of modifying the packets includes receiving a packet, replicating the packet
3 based on the policy to create a plurality of replicated packets for a plurality of
4 users interested in receiving the packet; and

5 the method further comprises the step of transmitting the replicated packets to the
6 interested users based on the policy.

1 20. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of
2 instructions for sending packets ~~in a computer system~~, wherein execution of the one or
3 more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more
4 processors to perform the steps of, ~~the computer-readable medium bearing~~
5 ~~instructions for performing the steps of~~:
6 communicating, from an application a user level to hardware, a policy for
7 manipulating packets; and
8 in the hardware, modifying the packets based on the policy.

1 21. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the
2 hardware is a router.

1 22. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of
2 instructions for sending messages ~~in a computer system~~, wherein execution of the one
3 or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more
4 processors to perform the steps of, ~~the computer-readable medium bearing~~
5 ~~instructions for performing the steps of~~:
6 creating an aggregate message from individual messages that are to be sent using an
7 operating system service;
8 transmitting the aggregate message to an operating system level with a system call;

9 within the operating system ~~level~~, dividing the aggregate message back into individual
10 messages; and
11 transmitting the individual messages using the operating system service.

1 23. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, wherein the
2 individual messages are packets.

1 24. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, wherein the
2 aggregate message includes a policy.

1 25. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 23, wherein the policy
2 indicates destinations to which messages should be redirected.

1 26. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the policy
2 includes video-to-message information.

1 27. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the policy
2 includes a time stamp that is a range of time indicating when the individual messages
3 should be transmitted.

1 28. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the policy
2 includes time stamps for transmitting the individual messages according to the time
3 stamps associated with the individual messages.

1 29. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the time
2 stamps are sequence numbers.

1 30. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the time
2 stamps are relative virtual time delays with respect to the first message to be
3 transmitted.

1 31. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the policy is a first policy, wherein the
2 packets are a first set of packets, and the method further comprises the steps of:
3 communicating, from the application to the operating system, a second policy for
4 manipulating packets; and
5 at the operating system, modifying a second set of packets based on the second policy
6 while the operating system is still configured to modify the first set of packets
7 based on the first policy.

1 32. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the policy is a first
2 policy, wherein the packets are a first set of packets, and wherein execution of the one
3 or more sequences of instructions by the one or more processors further causes the
4 one or more processors to perform the steps of:
5 communicating, from the application to the operating system, a second policy for
6 manipulating packets; and

7 at the operating system, modifying a second set of packets based on the second policy
8 while the operating system is still configured to modify the first set of packets
9 based on the first policy.